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Prologue

A stocky black Tom began to sneak back to camp his Amber eyes blazing in the darkness. He felt lost and afraid.
Who knows what Scar will do.

His heart felt ready to burst when he saw Russetfur.
Why did I ever try to kill you? Why did I kill any cat?

His heart sank.
This is the only way. If I do it maybe...

He wanted to press against Russetfur.
I can't. Not anymore. Not after what I've done. I guess I truly am Scar's son. I guess that's all I'll ever be.

Oh Russetfur. Why did I decide to betray you?

He wanted to wail to Starclan but he couldn't. Not anymore.

Allegiances

Allegiances For Warriors Battle Of The Lake #1 The Birth Of A Warrior Allegiances
(After Warriors The Storm Arc)

Shadowclan

LEADER: Bravestar-small scarred wiry brown and black tortoiseshell she-cat with one yellow eye (Daughter of Stormfire and Mousewing)

DEPUTY: Pinefall- gray tabby tom (son of Willowfur and Nettlewhiskers)

MEDICINE CAT: Snowflower- slender white she-cat with blue eyes (Daughter of Stormfire and Mousewing)

WARRIORS:

Mousewing- ginger tabby tom (son of Ashtail and Oakclaw)

Stormfire- dark gray and silver she-cat with yellow eyes (daughter of Rockstar and Silverstripe)

Ambergaze- ginger she-cat with white legs, white chest fur, white underbelly and white muzzle with ginger around her nose and dark blue eyes (daughter of Cinderblaze and Snowhawk)

Whitewing- white tom with dark blue eyes (son of Cinderblaze and Snowhawk)

Morningflower- small white and light gray she-cat with black tipped ears and dark blue eyes (daughter of Cinderblaze and Snowhawk)

Stoneclaw- light gray tom with blue eyes (son of Sageheart and Rockstar)

Skyflight- light gray she-cat with blue eyes (daughter of Sageheart and Rockstar)

Rainleaf- silver tabby she-cat with green eyes (daughter of Stormfire and Mousewing)

Newtspeck- light brown tabby Tom

Frostheart- pretty white she-cat with Amber eyes (Daughter of Firetail and Archpelt)

Silvermist- silver and black tabby she-cat with blue eyes (Daughter of Stormfire and Mousewing)

Nightclaw- black tom with yellow eyes (son of Stormfire and Mousewing)

Leaftail- dark ginger tom with green eyes (son of Ambergaze and Pinefall)

Spiderfoot- black tom with blue eyes (son of Ambergaze and Pinefall)

Marigoldheart- golden she-cat (daughter of Fernsky)

Mintfur- dappled grey tom (son of Fernsky)

Shrewclaw- small pale brown tabby tom with green eyes (son of Fernsky)

Sparrowwing- dark brown tabby tom with amber eyes (son of Bravestar and Newtspeck)

Brindlecloud- very pale pink she-cat with red eyes (daughter of Bravestar and Newtspeck)

Wrenflight- grey she-cat with dark grey spots and blue eyes (daughter of Bravestar and Newtspeck)

Hollytuft- beautiful she-cat with many shades of black fur and blue eyes (daughter of Bravestar and Newtspeck)

Mistheart- grey and silver tabby she-cat with blue eyes

Blacktail- stocky black Tom with amber eyes

Russetfur- russet furred she-cat with Amber eyes (daughter of Crowfrost and Pounceleap)

Smokestripe- pretty tortoiseshell she-cat with amber eyes (daughter of Crowfrost and Pounceleap)

Sootfeather- pale grey tabby tom with blue eyes (son of Crowfrost and Pounceleap)

Sorrelheart- very dark brown tabby she-cat with a white muzzle, white underbelly, white chest fur and blue eyes (daughter of Mistheart and Nightclaw)

Honeyblossom- ginger she-cat with a bright pink nose and grey eyes (daughter of Mistheart and Nightclaw)

Beetail- dark brown tabby tom with very dark brown paws and blue eyes (son of Mistheart and Nightclaw)

Sunstrike- ginger tom with blue eyes (son of Mistheart and Nightclaw)

Brackenwing- dark brown tabby tom with white chest fur, a white muzzle and grey eyes (son of Mistheart and Nightclaw)

ELDERS:

Archpelt- black and white Tom

Sageheart- speckled gray she-cat with green eyes

Firetail- ginger and white she-cat (daughter of Ashtail and Oakclaw)

Pondsplash- blue grey tortoiseshell she-cat with blue eyes

Riverclan

LEADER: Shadestar- dark gray Tom

DEPUTY: Ebonywing- black and white she-cat

MEDICINE CAT: Minnowtail- light brown Tom with white patches

WARRIORS:

Berryspots- dark brown Tom with white patches

Cherryheart- tortoiseshell she-cat

Foxshade- fox red Tom

Tigerlily- small white she-cat with black tiger stripes and icy blue eyes

Dapplenose- pretty brown and orange dappled she-cat

Brindlepelt- dark tabby she-cat

Frogbounce- stocky ginger Tom

Owleyes- long haired dark ginger Tom with white paws

Scar- long haired dark brown tabby Tom with blazing green eyes and a long scar stretching across one eye and muzzle

Flame- huge ginger Tom

Whisker- scarred grey she-cat

Twig- brown tabby Tom with blue eyes

Scratch- brown and cream Tom

Burn- dark tabby Tom

Soul- pale cream Tom

Shimmer- silver she-cat with black stripes

Pixie- White she-cat

Talon- golden brown Tom

Fleck- speckled grey Tom

Kestrel- brown and white Tom

Jay- black and white she-cat

Vixen- dark grey Tom

Quail- White she-cat with brown tabby markings

ELDERS:

Moonheart- pale gray tabby she-cat (daughter of Splashheart and Rainstar)

Spiderweb- blue gray tom (son of Splashheart and Rainstar)

Lakeshine- blue gray tabby she-cat (daughter of Splashheart and Rainstar)

Ashbreeze- light gray tabby tom (son of Splashheart and Rainstar)

Fallowflower- light gray she-cat (daughter of Splashheart and Rainstar)

Thunderclan

LEADER: Daisystar- black she-cat with white stripes and green eyes

DEPUTY: Tealfern- cream she-cat with Amber eyes

MEDICINE CAT: Bramblelight- pale brown tabby she-cat
Apprentice: Sweetwind-dark orange she-cat

WARRIORS:

Birdpelt- light brown tabby she-cat

Rabbittail- black Tom with a bob tail

Feathermarsh- brown and gray she-cat

Windclan

LEADER: Harestar- pale cream Tom

DEPUTY: Echosnout- spiky furred russet she-cat

MEDICINE CAT: Blackfur- black she-cat with white paws and a white muzzle

WARRIORS:

Whiskernose- brown speckled Tom with long whiskers

Heatherpelt- brown and cream she-cat

Redscar- red tortoiseshell Tom with a long scar across his neck

Ivyfang- long clawed tabby she-cat

Lilystripe- long haired cream she-cat

Oakfur- brown tabby Tom

Grasspelt- tortoiseshell she-cat

Owlflight- spotted grey Tom

APPRENTICES:

Spikepaw- dark brown Tom

Stagpaw- brown and white she-cat

QUEENS:

Breezeflower- White she-cat with black tabby markings
Mother to Bloomkit- small white she-kit, Blossomkit- pretty black tabby she-kit and Rabbitkit- black tomkit with Amber eyes

ELDERS:

Flowershade- pretty tortoiseshell she-cat

Cloudpelt- fluffy white Tom

Risingstorm- black and white Tom with yellow eyes

Runningtail- black and white Tom with blue eyes

Chapter 1 Russetfur

Russetfur stood leaving the den. Blacktail was still fast asleep. Russetfur didn't wake him. Why should she after the things he'd said about her? Snarling Russetfur headed into the forest.

She sat in the clearing not bothering to hunt. It felt like some one had ripped out her heart. She'd cared about Blacktail more then any other cat. Sootfeather appeared suddenly.

"What's wrong?" He asked.

Russetfur wanted to tell him everything. But first she needed to confront Blacktail.

"Nevermind," Russetfur responded. "Bad dream that's all,"

Sootfeather didn't looked like he believed her but he left anyway. Russetfur paced the clearing wondering why Blacktail was dong this.
It doesn't make sense. Does it? Of course it does. I just never noticed. He tried to kill me. What's stopping him now?

Russetfur scented a blackbird so she crouched. Leaf-bare would be over soon. Russetfur headed towards it them pounced. The blackbird squawked but it was too late.

Russetfur buried the bird deciding to come back for it later. She headed further into the forest. Her heart hammered in her chest. She wished she could take to Crowfrost or Pounceleap.

But she couldn't. Sighing Russetfur headed towards the lake. She watched for Riverclan or Thunderclan but saw neither.
They only go during the night now.

Russetfur tried to think of what Riverclan and Thunderclan were planning. But she didn't know.
Blacktail does.

Her heart sank when she remembered once more how she'd found out he'd been betraying Shadowclan and Windclan and her.
This is why you spent so long trying to gain my trust. You've never cared. You just need everyone to trust you. I'm going to expose you for the liar you are!

She smelled his scent suddenly and her fur stood on end. Hatred pulsed through her.

"Are you alright?" Blacktail asked.

He sounded gentle but Russetfur knew better.

"Leave me alone!" She snarled.

Then Russetfur ran off.

Chapter 2 Blacktail

When Blacktail woke Russetfur was gone. Yawning tiredly Blacktail grabbed a thrush from the fresh-kill pile gulping it down.

Blacktail left the camp in search of Russetfur. He found her scent quickly. She was sitting a strange look on her face.

Blacktail appeared and Russetfur's fur stood on end. Blacktail felt hatred coming from Russetfur. Concern filled him.

"What's wrong?" Blacktail asked gently.

Russetfur faced him furiously. She drew her lips back into a snarl.

"Leave me alone!" She snarled.

Before Blacktail could respond Russetfur was gone. Blacktail stared after her shocked and hurt.
She doesn't need to tell me everything. She'll talk when she's ready.

But to Blacktail's shock Russetfur avoided him, not speaking to him at all. Blacktail stared shocked wondering what in the name of Starclan had come over her.

Blacktail's tail drooped as he head around the camp. Shrewclaw came up to him.

"Are you alright?" The pale brown Tom asked. "Did you and Russetfur fight?"

"No," Blacktail answered. "I don't know what I did,"

But if she knew the truth she'd want me dead. So would you.

Blacktail sighed wishing he was a kit and that he was sleeping beside Misty.
But she's dead now, Scar killed her. Blacktail swallowed. *And now I'm working for him.*

Blacktail wished that Newleaf would come. It was cold and his fur wasn't really thick. He'd got it from Misty. He was very similar to his Mother. The same jet black fur, Amber eyes, short pelt.
I wish I had your courage. But I don't.

Blacktail found himself sitting in the pine forest. He listened to the sounds of bird song and the leaves blowing. He barely noticed Russetfur appear.

"Russetfur!" Blacktail cried. "Why have you-"

"I saw you," Russetfur interrupted.

"Saw me?" Blacktail asked. "You see me every day,"

"I saw you with them," Russetfur meowed accusingly.

"Who?" Blacktail asked slow to catch on.

"The rogues!" Russetfur snapped.

Blacktail felt his blood turn to ice. "I don't know what you're talking about,"

"Yes you do," Russetfur hissed. "You betrayed Shadowclan! I heard everything you said!"

Blacktail shook his head vigorously. "No you don't understand! I..." Blacktail trailed off.

"That's right," Russetfur spat. "You can't defend yourself! I heard everything you said. You lied to Shadowclan, you lied to me! I trusted you but all this time you've been spying! Bravestar is going to hear about this and I'm going to kill you because you disgust me!"

NO! Blacktail wanted to scream. *You don't understand!*
But he couldn't. All he could do was watch Russetfur walk away.

Chapter 3 Russetfur

Russetfur headed into the warriors den, moving her nest far away from Blacktail's. When she was done she saw that Blacktail was nowhere to be seen.
Coward! Too scared too show up! He's probably gone back to Riverclan!

Snarling Russetfur grabbed a lizard from the fresh-kill pile. Newleaf was right around the corner and prey had just begun to appear. Some of it anyway. Russetfur gulped it down.

"Do you think we should go to the Gathering?" She heard Bravestar asked Snowflower.

"I wouldn't," Snowflower answered. "If it was a war against the clans we could because clans at least have honour. But we're talking about Shadestar and the rogues,"

"And besides," Pinefall growled sitting with them. "I doubt Thunderclan will go. Not since they've betrayed the clans,"

Russetfur tuned out. She felt miserable and it took her a while to figure out why.
I haven't known peace since I was a kit. But that was so long ago. Those day's are gone now.

Sighing Russetfur lay down. The camp hadn't had kits in moons.
At least no kit will be born in such a horrible time.

Russetfur looked around wondering what to do. You didn't want to go into the forest in case Blacktail was there yet she didn't want to stay in camp.
Maybe I can figure out who Riverclan's leader will be. But how will I get to Riverclan?

"No Russetfur," the voice of a Starclan cat murmured in her ear. "Riverclan doesn't have a leader among them. But Shadowclan does,"

Russetfur blinked with shock. A *Shadowclan* cat was to be Riverclan's new leader?! Too shocked for words Russetfur went into her jest suddenly feeling tired.

She dreamed she was in a wide open meadow, the flowers blooming and the grass coming up to her chest. Russetfur raced through the grass but fell suddenly. She found herself in Riverclan's camp. A pale ginger Tom stood in front of her. He was small but had the muscles of a warrior.

"Who are you?" Russetfur asked.

"That's not why you have come," the pale ginger cat murmured his green eyes studying her but not in a hostile way.

"I chose to come here?" Russetfur asked.

"You could have," The small tomcat answered.

Russetfur felt slightly irritated. Must this cat be so vague? But she saw the amusement in his green eyes. But his expression turned suddenly serious. "You must find Riverclan's leader among your own clanmates,"

"What?!" Russetfur cried. "They won't listen!"

"They will," he responded. "It's up to you to choose the right cat,"

"You know nothing!" Russetfur snapped.

"Bravestar will help you," The little tomcat told her ignoring her outburst.

Russetfur snorted. "Yeah right!"

"She will," the pale ginger Tom insisted. He turned to leave. Just before he took off he turned to face her. "My name is Thrushpaw,"

Chapter 4 Blacktail

Blacktail felt miserable as he lay down to sleep. But he was afraid too. Would Russetfur really tell? Did it matter?
She can't trust me either way.

Swallowing Blacktail went to the dirtplace tunnel pushing his way out. He headed to the lake where Scar was waiting.

"Well?" Scar asked. "Anything to report?"

"No," Blacktail asked. He paused suddenly risking a question. "Why did you love Misty?"

Scar frowned. "Love is something she taught to me. Why?"

"I just wanted to know," Blacktail murmured.

"Don't I seem like the type of cat who could love?" Scar asked.

"Not really," Blacktail confessed.

Scar's whiskers twitched. "I suppose not. Love is sweet Blacktail but it is dangerous. It will distract you and ultimately all you get from it is pain,"

I know better then you think.

"Just in case," Blacktail began hating to lie. "How do you know if you love someone?"

"You'd die for them," Scar answered. "You value them above yourself. They make you feel something, something that you can't get anywhere else,"

Blacktail glanced at his Father. "Did you feel that way about Misty?"

"Yes," Scar replied.

Blacktail risked one last question. "Do you still love her?"

Scar stared at him, his green eyes inspecting him. Blacktail could only stare back.

"Yes," Scar answered quietly.

Nodding Blacktail left. He'd made up his mind. He knew what he had to do know. Entering the warriors den he spotted Russetfur. She looked peaceful in her sleep, almost happy.
I hope you feel be happy soon. I hope this works. I'm sorry Russetfur.

Blacktail touched his nose to Russetfur's then left. He couldn't come back. Not without being killed.
But it will be worth it if I can save you. I'm sorry.

So Blacktail headed towards Riverclan and Scar. He was ready.

Chapter 5 Russetfur

The next morning when Russetfur woke Marigoldheart was standing over her. The golden she-cat whipped her tail over Russetfur's muzzle.

"You and I are on the dawn patrol," Marigoldheart whispered.

Looking around the den Russetfur saw that Blacktail's nest was empty. Hate and annoyance filled her.

"And Blacktail is coming?" She asked in an angry whisper.

"No," Marigoldheart replied looking at Blacktail's empty nest. "He must be out somewhere,"

Russetfur narrowed her eyes. But she followed Marigoldheart out of then den. In the clearing Whitewing, Newtspeck and Bravestar were waiting. Russetfur let her fur lay flat. She was going on a patrol with Bravestar.
I have to tell her about my dream!

As the patrol headed off Russetfur stayed at the back. Bravestar joined her.

"Is something wrong?" The Shadowclan leader asked keeping her remaining eye fixed on Russetfur.

"I need to speak to you alone," Russetfur answered.

Bravestar nodded. "Newtspeck! Marigoldheart! Whitewing! Go on without us we'll catch up!"

The three warriors nodded and kept going through the lush pine forest. Bravestar looked expectantly at Russetfur.

"I had a dream," Russetfur explained. "Starclan told me that Riverclan needs a new leader and that it must come from Shadowclan,"

Russetfur glanced at Bravestar but the tortoiseshell leaders expression revealed nothing.

"Did they say the cat must be from Shadowclan?" Bravestar asked. "Did Starclan say who?"

"They said the cat *must* come from Shadowclan," Russetfur answered. "But not who except that I had to find this cat,"

"Who told you this?" Bravestar asked.

"Thrushpaw," Russetfur replied wondering if Bravestar knew who it was.

The effect on Bravestar was immediate. She looked at Russetfur. "Are you sure?"

Russetfur nodded. "I'm sure. But Bravestar who is Thrushpaw?"

"He is my littermate," Bravestar answered.

"Oh," Russetfur murmured not sure what to say. She hesitated. "What happened to him?"

Bravestar sighed closing her eyes. "Before we become warriors Thrushpaw and I got sick and had to stay in the medicine den. We were in there for a long time and because of this our warrior ceremony was to be delayed. But the rest of our littermates got their warrior names. Thrushpaw and I were angry. We wanted to prove that we were as good as them. We went into a part of the territory where there had been reports of dogs. We thought if we beat them we'd get our warrior names. But we were wrong," Bravestar paused, the Shadowclan leader was shaking but she continued. "The dogs were huge and more numerous then we had imagined. They attacked us. Thrushpaw died. You can see what they did to me,"

Russetfur was silent unsure of what to say. As the silence stretched on Bravestar seemed to speak to no one in particular.

"I'm sorry Thrushpaw," she whispered. "And you too Mistletoe. I'm sorry,"

Chapter 6 Blacktail

"Welcome son," Scar purred. "I see we've learned all we can about Shadowclan,"

Blacktail looked around the Riverclan camp, reeds were everywhere. It looked nothing like Shadowclan territory. Blacktail could see the rogues everywhere, Shadestar and Ebonywing sitting among them.

The Elders looked angry but they were ignored by everyone else. The warriors kept to themselves.
Why don't they stand up for themselves? Blacktail wondered.

"Hello Knight," Scratch growled walking over. "It's been a long time,"

It's been moons since anyone called me Knight.

"Hello Scratch," Blacktail responded nodding to the brown and cream Tom. "Is all well here?"

"Yes," Scratch answered. "Thunderclan is on our side. Windclan should pose no threat. As for Shadowclan, well you're our informant,"

Blacktail nodded. Scratch left to join the other rogues.

"Knight!"

Blacktail turned around to see a white she-cat running towards him. She licked his cheek rubbing her muzzle against his.

"Pixie?" Blacktail asked.

"I missed you so much my love!" Pixie purred. "I know you missed me too,"

Blacktail stared back.

I didn't miss you. But I miss Russetfur. But I'll never see her again.

"I'm glad you're safe," Pixie whispered. "I was so worried! I heard Shadowclan even has a sharp tongued she-cat that wants to kill you! You killed her Father or something. It doesn't matter though. It's all for the greater good. Once we have the lake we can get rid of that she-cat together,"

She means Russetfur. A pang of grief hit Blacktail. *I don't want you Pixie! I want to see Russetfur!*

But he couldn't. Blacktail just stood by Pixie feeling lost and alone. He wished with all his heart that he didn't have to do this.
I wish that I could live in peace with Russetfur in Shadowclan. But it's too late now. She knows and she'll never forgive me. This is my only hope.

Chapter 7 Russetfur

"Where's Blacktail?" Brindlecloud asked. "I haven't seen him all day,"

"No one has," Mintfur responded.

Russetfur bristled. She knew exactly where he'd gone. *Blacktail has gone back to his rogue friends. I need to tell Bravestar now!*

Russetfur looked around for the Shadowclan leader. Guessing she was in the forest Russetfur raced out of camp. She followed Bravestar's scent to where she had caught a thrush.

"Yes Russetfur?" Bravestar asked spotting her.

"I know where Blacktail is," she cried.

Bravestar flicked her ears. "Where?"

"Not long ago Blacktail sneak out of camp during the night," Russetfur began. "So I followed him. I saw him talking to the rogues about Shadowclan. It turns out he only came here to spy,"

"But he like you," Bravestar pointed out.

"I heard them mention me," Russetfur confessed. "And Blacktail said that I would be forgotten in battle and if it came to it he'd kill me without hesitation,"

"So he's gone back to the rogues," Bravestar murmured.

Russetfur nodded.

"Let's go back to camp," Bravestar decided.

Russetfur followed Bravestar back to camp. The Shadowclan leader jumped onto the Hazel branch overhanging her den.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey gather to hear my

words!" Bravestar yowled.

The clan gathered instantly.

"I have found what has become of Blacktail," Bravestar told the clan. "He has returned to the rogues. Blacktail was spying on us the whole time,"

Gasps of shock and confusion came from the clan.

"Russetfur tell the clan what you have seen," Bravestar ordered.

Russetfur jumped up beside Bravestar and told the clan how she'd gone after him and what he'd said. Cries of outrage and fury erupted from the clan.

"Kill him!" Frostheart screeched.

"He's a traitor!" Sootfeather snarled.

Smokestripe looked furious. Russetfur could feel her own hatred rising. She'd been used. Blacktail would pay.

Chapter 8 Blacktail

Blacktail sat beside the Riverclan warrior Frogbounce, a stocky ginger Tom. Pixie was sitting with them too. She hadn't left Blacktail's side once.

"Get up," Burn muttered. "We are going to see Thunderclan,"

"I'm coming with Knight!" Pixie cried. "You can't stop me!"

Burn shrugged. So Blacktail, Flame, Burn, Pixie and Scar headed to Thunderclan territory. Along the way a Shadowclan patrol appeared consisting of Mousewing, Frostheart, Wrenflight and Newtspeck.

All four cats laid eyes on Blacktail. Their hatred was obvious. Frostheart looked like she was ready to kill him. Blacktail flinched.

"You rogues shouldn't be here," Newtspeck snarled. He faced Blacktail. "You especially!"

"Leave him alone!" Pixie hissed.

"We don't take orders from you!" Mousewing snarled.

"Mousewing," Newtspeck meowed.

Blacktail could hear the order in Newtspeck's meow and knew what was going to happen. Mousewing took off.

"What do you want with Riverclan?" Newtspeck snarled.

He's stalling.

"None of your business," Scar answered. "Why does Shadowclan care anyway?"

Newtspeck never had time to answer. Russetfur seemed to appear from nowhere. Before anyone could move she was on top of Blacktail scoring her claws across his flank, muzzle, tail.

Battle exploded suddenly. Blacktail could only try to defend himself but Russetfur was filled with rage.

"YOU'RE A TRAITOR!!!" She screamed.

"Please Russetfur you don't understand!" Blacktail cried.

"Oh I do!" Russetfur snarled.

Her teeth had just locked around his neck when Scar pulled her off. Blacktail stared with horror. *He'll kill her!*

Scar raised his paw for the killing blow but Russetfur was faster. She slashed open his belly then sank her teeth into Scar's neck. Scar collapsed to the ground dead. The rogues took off instantly. Pixie helped Blacktail. The only thing that kept the Shadowclan cats away was the promise of a battle in which they would fight to the death.

Chapter 9 Russetfur

Russetfur watched the rogues leave. Beneath her Scar lay lifeless. Her clanmates had a few scratches but it was nothing compared to the wounds given to the rogues.

"He was their leader right?" Smokestripe asked indicating Scar.

"Yes," Russetfur snarled. "And this will show them what we will do to them. Next time it will be Blacktail,"

The cats returned to camp. Russetfur wanted to fight Thunderclan and Riverclan now. She wanted Blacktail and Shadestar dead. She wanted all the rogues dead.

Her fury did not ebb even when she returned to camp. It boiled inside her growing stronger. Snowflower appeared from the medicine den.

"I sense death coming," the medicine cat meowed. "The battle is coming,"

"When it comes we will be ready," Stoneclaw vowed.

"Even me," Firetail hissed. "I may be an Elder but I will fight and you cannot stop me,"

"No one is," Archpelt meowed. "You retired before Mousewing to stay with me. You could still be a warrior. You can fight,"

Firetail pressed herself against him. Russetfur paced the camp. She headed out wanting to see the rogues. She wanted a fight. She hid watching. Twig, Blacktail and Pixie were coming back for Scar's body.

Blacktail's fur stood on end suddenly. *He knows I'm here.*

"Are you okay my love?" Pixie asked.

That's who he chose after me? Some stupid rogue? Pathetic.

Blacktail shrugged. His gaze met Russetfur's were a second. Russetfur could see grief pain and longing in his eyes.

Chapter 10 Blacktail

Blacktail risked a look into Russetfur's Amber eyes. He knew that there was grief and longing in his. He begged that Russetfur would feel the same but all he could see was rage and a glint in her eyes that promised death.

Russetfur turned back to Scar's body refusing to answer Pixie's question. He had thought Scar would kill Russetfur. But he had underestimated Russetfur. He, Twig and Pixie carried Scar between them back to Riverclan's camp.

Shadestar was waiting for them with the rogues. He looked shocked. Blacktail himself felt the same. But for different reasons. He had never seen that glint in Russetfur's eyes, or that much hate.

"Who did this?!" Shadestar asked.

"Russetfur," Blacktail answered.

"What?" Shadestar sounded confused.

"She was attacking me when Scar pulled her off. Scar was about to kill her but Russetfur got there first," Blacktail explained.

"I was his second in command," Flame growled. "I will lead the rogues. Whisker you will be my second in command,"

The scarred grey she-cat purred. "Thank you Flame,"

"We still have to speak to Thunderclan," Talon a golden brown Tom reminded them.

"We will at the Gathering Island," Flame announced. "Shadowclan and Windclan don't go there anymore so we shall. And then in three moons at the claw moon we will attack Shadowclan and Windclan and win. Is that sufficient Shadestar?"

"Yes," Shadestar responded.

Blacktail swallowed. Three moons was all he had. It would be very difficult. He would be killed instantly if anyone found out. And it would be very hard to convince Shadowclan. He could only hope that they would believe him.

Pixie pressed against him. Blacktail sighed. *I'm sorry Pixie. I love a cat but it isn't you. You'll hate me soon anyway. Just like Shadowclan. But I don't have a choice. I have to do this.*

For Russetfur.

Chapter 11 Russetfur

Two moons had passed since Blacktail had gone. Windclan and Shadowclan were training together. Both clans were ready to attack. Meanwhile Bravestar sat with Pinefall, Stormfire, Mousewing, Newtspeck, Snowflower and surprisingly Russetfur.

"I think we should attack first," Pinefall declared. "The rogues will be ready anytime but we are ready now. Better to catch them off guard then for them to ambush us,"

"I think we should wait," Newtspeck decided. "If Riverclan and Thunderclan Coke to us then they will be fighting in unfamiliar terrain. We'll have the advantage,"

"They have Blacktail," Pinefall counted. "Who has lived in our territory and been in Windclan's territory,"

"Let's wait," Mousewing suggested. "We have plenty of time. With Scar dead they will be disorientated,"

"I agree with with Pinefall," Stormfire meowed. "The rogues won't wait much longer and they have Blacktail. Besides if they are in chaos because of Scar's death then this is the perfect time to attack!"

Bravestar looked doubtful.

"Mistletoe would have wanted it this way," Stormfire whispered. "And Thrushpaw,"

Russetfur could see the effect it had on Bravestar.
Stormfire knows just what to say.

"For Mistletoe," Bravestar decided. "And Thrushpaw. They would want peace sooner. In three days we will fight. For now we must get ready,"

Russetfur walked away scoring her claws across the ground. The time for Blacktail to pay was coming closer and closer.

"Let all cats old enough to catch their own prey gather to hear my words!" Bravestar called.

The clan was already sitting around wanting to know what the decision was.

"In three days we will fight Riverclan and Thunderclan," Bravestar announced. "Nightclaw, Mistheart, Leaftail and Spiderfoot please go tell Windclan. Pinefall you go too,"

The chosen cats nodded then buried away. The time was coming. Every cat could feel it. This battle would not be bloodless. And they wanted to win.

Chapter 12 Blacktail

Blacktail watched the clan go through everything normally. Pixie stuck close to his side. Usually Blacktail didn't care but right now he needed to be alone.

"I need to make dirt," Blacktail told her. "Wait here,"

Pixie frowned but didn't respond. Blacktail headed into the dirtplace. He slipped out of it and headed towards Shadowclan territory. His heart nearly stopped as he hid from a Riverclan patrol.

Blacktail disgusted his scent and before long he was inside Shadowclan's territory. Blacktail kept himself hidden as he headed towards the camp. Relief filled him. He hadn't been spotted.

Yet.

"Thought I wouldn't notice you?" A familiar voice growled. "You shouldn't have come here Blacktail,"

Blacktail turned around to see Russetfur, her Amber eyes blazing and her russet fur spiked. Blacktail flattened his ears. This is what he had feared.

"Coke to spy?" Russetfur asked coldly. "Too bad it'll never happen,"

Blacktail stood boldly. "That's not why I have come,"

Russetfur snorted. "I don't care,"

"You should," Blacktail responded. "I need to speak to Bravestar,"

"Well you can't," Russetfur snapped. "You're a traitor,"

"Do you really think I am so low that I would join the rogues?" Blacktail asked. "There's a reason I went. If you won't to know before Bravestar does then by all means I'll tell you," Blacktail looked at her seriously. "I'm sorry Russetfur,"

Russetfur kept her expression guarded.

Blacktail sighed. "The truth is I went to Riverclan to spy. I always knew this battle would come but I wanted you to be safe so I went to Riverclan to spy to find out anything I could,"

"Then who was that she-cat who were with?" Russetfur asked.

"Who Pixie?" Blacktail asked. "She wouldn't leave me alone,"

"When are the rogues going to attack?" Russetfur asked.

"At the claw moon, next moon," Blacktail answered.

"How should I believe you?" Russetfur asked. "Scar was your family,"

"*Misty* is my family," Blacktail snapped. "Scar killed her! Why would I have any loyalty to him?"

"Misty?" Russetfur asked.

"My Mother," Blacktail explained.

Russetfur lashed her tail. "Let's go. The clan awaits. I would be cautious. They all want you dead,"

Blacktail swallowed and followed her.

Chapter 13 Russetfur

Russetfur was tense as she led Blacktail into the camp. Fury erupted at the sight of Blacktail. Frostheart and Firetail stepped forward snarling. Russetfur didn't move from where she stood. Bravestar came forward.

"Why is he here?" Bravestar asked. There was no anger in her voice.

"You tell them," Russetfur told Blacktail.

Blacktail came forward facing the furious Shadowclan cats. Russetfur saw him lift his chin.

"I didn't really go to Riverclan to join them," Blacktail began. "I went to spy. I have found out a few things like next moon, at claw moon the rogues will attack,"

"Why should we believe you?!" Stoneclaw hissed.

"What reason would I have to go back to *them*?" Blacktail asked angrily.

Russetfur could hear the venom in Blacktail's voice as he spat the word 'them'.

"Because you used to be a rogue," Archpelt snapped.

Blacktail's eyes flashed with grief as he spoke. "Scar threatened me. He had already killed my Mother,"

"Threatened you?" Russetfur asked. "How?"

"He threatened to kill Twig," Blacktail answered. "He's my younger brother,"

I remember Twig. He was the frightened one back all that time ago. So that's why.

"But Scar's dead," Ambergaze pointed out.

Blacktail shrugged. "Flame is their leader now. The rogues have already recovered. And he will kill Twig. But if we can beat them soon then we might just save him,"

"We planned to attack in two days," Bravestar explained.

"Hold on," Pinefall meowed. "I don't mean to be rude Blacktail but I think you should be guarded just in case,"

"If that's what you want," Blacktail murmured.

"Skyflight, Sparrowwing if you will," Pinefall meowed.

The two warriors nodded sitting down to watch Blacktail. Everyone else went back to their duties. Bravestar, Pinefall and Blacktail went to talk about battle strategies.
Soon the battle will began. I just hope no one will die.

But that was too much to hope for.

Chapter 14 Blacktail

A day had passed. Warriors were agitated. The battle was tomorrow. Tomorrow so many fates would be decided. Tomorrow someone could die. Anything could happen.
Twig please be okay.

Blacktail's greatest fear was that the rogues and Thunderclan would win. Looking around at his clanmates Blacktail realised something.
They will not give in until they are dead or have won.

Still nervous Blacktail paced the clearing. Windclan had been alerted. They knew when the battle would begin and both clans had a strategy.

Blacktail looked around for Russetfur. But she was hunting probably. It was Newleaf now. Many would be hunting. Their would be a feast if they won.

The sun began to set. Feeling tired Blacktail headed into his nest. He lay down. In his dream a memory replayed.

Knight squealed as Jade knocked him over.

"I win!" Jade yowled triumphantly. She was small with ginger fur.

"Nah uh!" Knight yelled knocking her over.

Peach ran over too her dark brown and white fur wet.

"I'm going to beat you both!" Peach declared.

The three kits fought playfully as their Mother watched on proudly.

"You should all be proud," Misty purred her Amber eyes glowing. "You will all be fighters someday,"

"I'm the biggest!" Knight pointed out. "So I'm the strongest!"

"But we are smaller so we're faster!" Jade and Peach called back.

"You are rather small," a dark brown tabby meowed frowning.

"It's fine," Misty meowed hastily. "They will be faster then others. Besides they'll grow. They are your kits,"

Scar looked doubtful. "I don't know,"

"You are the strongest cat I know," Misty responded. "And they will grow to be as big and strong as you,"

Scar's face hardened. "No,"

"You can't kill them!" Misty cried.

"I won't," Scar snapped. "They are not worthy. They shall spend their days as kittypets,"

Tears slid down Misty's muzzle. "Scar.."

"No arguing!" Scar snarled. "This is my decision,"

"Goodbye my kits," Misty murmured.

Scar picked up Jade and Peach and walked away.

"Noooooooo!" Knight wailed. "Daddy don't take them!"

"Misty!" Jade shrieked.

"Misty help!" Peach wailed.

Knight watched his littermates be taken away.

"Blacktail? Blacktail!"

Blacktail shot awake. Russetfur was standing over him.

"It's time," Russetfur told him.

Chapter 15 Russetfur

"Are you ready?" Blacktail asked her.

Russetfur shook her head. All she could feel was fear. She was afraid no matter how much she tried to hide it. Windclan would have already been heading off, half towards Riverclan and half towards Thunderclan.

It was the same for Shadowclan. Russetfur and Blacktail followed their patrol to Riverclan territory. Russetfur closed her eyes trying to rid of her fear. All she could think of was the rogues killing the group of cats.

Still it didn't help. The Shadowclan cats arrived at Riverclan camp. Windclan was waiting. A tail signal was all it took and battle exploded.

At first Russetfur stood frozen. Then she saw Shadestar and rage boiled inside her. All the rage and fury she'd kept hidden away exploded and Russetfur threw herself into the battle fighting.

Russetfur found herself grappling with Pixie. The White she-cat was smaller but her claws were long and sharp.

"What did you do to Knight?!" Pixie snarled. "He loves me!"

"No he doesn't!" Russetfur spat. "Did he ever say it to you?!"

This infuriated Pixie. The two met each other blow for blow. Russetfur felt Pixie's claws slashed her flank. Snarling Russetfur sank her teeth into Pixie's paw and did not let go.

Pixie thrashed kicking Russetfur with unsheathed claws. Russetfur let go suddenly. Blacktail ran over.

"Knight!" Pixie cried. "Tell this ruffian that you love me!"

Blacktail stared at her. "I have never loved you Pixie," he turned to

Russetfur. "I have always loved Russetfur," he faced Pixie again. "And my name is Blacktail,"

Pixie shrieked then ran off back into the fight. Russetfur and Blacktail fought together against every cat. Russetfur was hardly aware of her injuries. But she felt dizzy. Russetfur shook her head biting, clawing and slashing.

She could see cats falling, Riverclan cats, rogues, Windclan cats and some Shadowclan too. Suddenly a huge ginger Tom knocked her over.

"I remember you!" Flame snarled. "You were that apprentice that I nearly killed! Well I'm going to finish the job!"

Chapter 16 Blacktail

As Flame pinned Russetfur down Blacktail turned to help her. Instead he found himself held down by Pixie and Jay a black and white she-cat.

"You can watch her die!" Pixie screamed.

Blacktail thrashed but it was no use. As Flame raise his paw for the fatal blow he got their first. Pinefall the Shadowclan deputy threw himself in front of Russetfur.

Flame landed the killing blow. Russetfur shot up sinking her teeth into Flame's neck killing him. She sat by Pinefall's side. Pixie and Jay screamed then ran off.

"Why?" Russetfur asked.

As Pinefall lay dying Blacktail could hear exactly what he said. "Pounceleap would have wanted it..."

Leaftail and Spiderfoot are in Windclan.

But Ambergaze wasn't. She ran over to her fallen mate wailing with grief and fury. Blacktail closed his eyes. He trembled. Despite the deputies attitude Blacktail had respected him.
This has to end soon!

And it did. Bravestar and Stormfire stood over Shadestar. Both attacked the Riverclan leader who only had one life. And soon by Stormfire's paws Shadestar was dead.

The remaining rogues looked lost. There was so few of them they raced away. Fallowflower came out of the Elders den looking distressed.

"What do we do?" Fallowflower asked. "Ebonywing and Shadestar are gone. That's good but who will lead Riverclan now?"

Blacktail looked at Russetfur who was looking up at the sky.

"Skyflight should," Russetfur meowed.

"A Shadowclan cat?!" Someone hissed.

"Yes,"

Everyone turned to see Silverstripe. The Starclan cat stood.

"We have chosen Skyflight," Silverstripe faced the light grey she-cat. "I am sorry. But this is what must happen,"

Skyflight dipped her head sadly. "If that's what Starclan wants. But I will miss Shadowclan,"

"I'll help you," Fallowflower murmured.

Blacktail felt Russetfur next to him.

"We are safe now," Russetfur murmured.

"Twig isn't," Blacktail whispered.

"I'm sorry," Russetfur meowed.

"It's okay," Blacktail responded. "You're right thought, for now there is peace,"

Epilogue

The russet furred she-cat and the night black Tom sat by their kits. The night black Tom purred.,

The russet she-cat pressed her cheek against his. Their kits would be safe now.

Authors Note

I hope you all enjoyed this story! XD

It was a bit darker then the other stories but well what can I say?

Anyway I hope you enjoyed! The next book will be in the perspective of Russetfur and Blacktail's kits!

Also if you are interested I have began planning Rockstar's story!

Please comment any opinions or suggestions you have! Thank you!

-Stormfire01

PS. The title for the next arc will be Warriors Dusk and Dawn so look out for that! :)